

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSM-03 OMB-01 CIAE-00
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO RIYADH
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EG IS XF
SUBJ: SADAT RETURNS, PRAISES SAUDIS; "NO SEPARATE PEACE WITH
ISRAEL"

REF CAIRO 18222

SUMMARY: SADAT RETURNS TO CAIRO WITH "EXCELLENT RESULTS" AMID
EXCEPTIONAL PRESS PLAY OF SAUDI ROLE. SADAT RESTATES POSITION
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ON GENEVA WHILE INFORMED EDITOR SAYS PROPOSAL FLOATED FOR VANCE
TO ARRANGE PRE-GENEVA PROXIMITY-TYPE TALKS TO PREPARE MEPC
AGENDA. SADAT DECLARES "EGYPT WILL NEVER CONCLUDE SEPARATE
PEACE WITH ISRAEL." MAINTAINS THERE NO PROBLEMS AMONG CON-
FRONTATION STATES AND PLO. SUSTAINED REFERENCE TO ARAB CO-
ORDINATION AND SOLIDARITY SUGGEST OPPOSITE MAY STILL BE TRUE.
END SUMMARY.

1. SAUDI/EGYPTIAN COORDINATION. SADAT RETURNED TO CAIRO NOV 3 WITH "EXCELLENT RESULTS" FROM HIS TOUR OF ROMANIA, IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA. NOV 4 PRESS COVERAGE STRESSED COMPLETENESS OF EGYPT-SAUDI COOPERATION, "PARAGON OF BILATERAL RELATIONS AMONG ARAB STATES". SADAT SAID SAUDIS "PERFORMING THEIR ROLE MOST WONDERFULLY" AND TWO ARE IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON HOW TO PROCEED. EGYPTIANS AND SAUDIS CONSIDER IT MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER TO CONSOLIDATE ARAB SOLIDARITY. AHRAH EDITORIAL, PRECEIVING PEACE EFFORTS "PASSING THROUGH BOTTLENECK", DECLARED IT NOW "IMPERATIVE FOR FRONT LINE STATES TO COORDINATE WITH PALESTINIANS AND SUPPORTING STATES." KING HUSSEIN WILL BEGIN VISIT TO CAIRO (VIA SAUDI ARAB) NOVEMBER 5 "WITHIN CONTEXT OF POLITICAL COORDINATION AND JOINT ARAB ACTION".

2. SUBSTANCE OF TALKS. IN ALL HIS DISCUSSIONS, SADAT STRESSED (A) NO GENEVA WITHOUT PROPER PREPARATION, WHICH MEANS "CONCENTRATION ON ISSUES AND NO WAISTING OF TIME ON PROCEDURES" AND (B) WORKING PAPER SHOULD BE PRODUCED DEALING WITH SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED.

3. NEW FORMULA. CHAIRMAN MUSA SABRI DEVOTED MUCH OF AKHBAR'S FRONT PAGE TO PROPOSAL BY UNIDENTIFIED PARTY MADE DURING SADAT TOUR. SECRETARY VANCE WOULD MEDIATE ENTIRE PROCESS BEGINNING WITH ANOTHER MIDDLE EAST TOUR TO ARRANGE TIMING AND VENUE FOR PROXIMITY-TYPE TALKS, PERHAPS IN A "BIG HOTEL IN A NEUTRAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CAPITAL". THESE TALKS WOULD BE HELD WITHIN FIXED TIME-TABLE TO PRODUCE AGENDA FOR GENEVA. RESULTING "WORKING PAPER" WOULD GOVERN CONDUCT OF GENEVA MEPC. CONTACTS BETWEEN U.S. AND CONCERNED CAPITALS ON THIS PROPOSAL HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PLACE.

4. NO SEPARATE PEACE. SUSTAINED REFERENCE DURING PAST WEEK TO COORDINATION BETWEEN CONFRONTATION STATES CAPPED BY SADAT DECLARATION THAT "EGYPT WOULD NEVER CONCLUDE UNILATERAL PEACE AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL." (COMMENT: THIS STATEMENT CARRIED ONLY IN GUMHURIYYA AND WAS BURIED IN TEXT, ALTHOUGH EGYPTIAN GAZETTE GAVE IT MAJOR PLAY.) SADAT ALSO TOLD PRESS THAT "THERE NO DIFFERENCE AMONG EGYPT AND OTHER CONFRONTATION STATES OR PLO." HE AFFIRMED RECEIPT OF MESSAGE FROM ASAD THROUGH DEPUTY DEFMIN JAMIL, BUT SAID IT WAS REQUEST FOR "CLARIFICATIONS ABOUT GENEVA". EGYPT HAS ALREADY REPLIED TO ASAD.

5. PRESIDENT CARTER TRYING. ADDITIONAL BITS AND PIECES OF PRESIDENT'S WJC SPEECH REPORTED TODAY: "PRESIDENT OFFERED MEDIATE PERSONALLY; U.S. BELIEVES PLO STAND MIGHT JUSTIFY ISRAELI FEARS OF ARAB INTENTIONS, BUT ISRAEL MUST WIDEN SCOPE OF ITS VISION AND BECOME MORE REALISTIC; IT SHOULD NOT ALLOW PRESENT

CHANCES FOR PEACE TO SLIP AWAY." ACCORDING "OFFICIAL U.S. SOURCE"
PRESIDENT'S MEDIATION OFFER MEANT HE PREPARED TO MEET WITH
MIDDLE EAST LEADERS ANY TIME, ANY PLACE.

6. PRESIDENT CARTER BELEAGUERED. PRESIDENT FACING "HORRIBLE
CAMPAIGN" BY ZIONISTS, WHO HAVE DECLARED WAR ON HIM. WJC
SPEECH INTERRUPTED BY CRIES OF "STAB IN THE BACK". CARTER ME
POLICY ASSAILED BY CONSERVATIVE DECOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS ALIKE.
ADMINISTRATION CHACTERIZED BY FEAR OF ZIONIST PRESSURE, THUS
IS EMITTING "ANXIOUS ASSURANCES" OF COMMITMENT TO ISREALI
SECURITY. AT SAME TIME "U.S. CAN DO MUCH BECAUSE IT HAS
EFFECTIVE MEANS TO PRESSURE ISRAEL."

7. COMMENT: EMPHASIS ON COORDINATION AMONG CONFRONTATION STATES
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AND PLO, AND NOW SADAT'S STUNNING NEED TO AFFIRM HE WILL NOT
MAKE SEPARATE PEACE, CONTRIBUTE TO BELIEF THAT ARAB PARTIES STILL
NOT IN STEP. SAUDIS, IN ANY CASE, GETTING SOME CREDIT FOR TRYING
TO ASSURE UNITY (PRESUMABLY BECAUSE THEY ARE AWARE OF INCREASING
SPECULATION AMONG OBSERVERS HERE, INCLUDING SOVIET DIPLOMATS, THAT
SADAT MIGHT SEEK TO GO IT ALONE IF NEGOTIATIONS FAIL). SADAT
AND HIS GUIDED PRESS, WITH THEIR APPEALS AND ASSURANCES, APPEAR
TO HAVE HAD SAUDI WORDS PUT IN THEIR MOUTHS. HOWEVER, LOW-KEY
TREATMENT OF "NO SEPARATE PEACE" STATEMENT SUGGESTS GOE FINDS
IT USEFUL IN INTRA-ARAB DISCUSSIONS TO ALLOW DOUBTS TO LINGER.

8. AMERICAN JOURNALIST CLAIMS THAT GOE OFFICIALS "CLOSE TO
SADAT" SAYING PROPOSAL IN AKHBAR FOR PROXIMITY-TYPE PREPARATORY
TALKS TO PREPARE AGENDA WILL BE OFFICIALLY PROPOSED TO
U.S. BY GOE.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 04-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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